# Guidelines for Delivering Quality Palliative Care

TABLE 2
**Core Outcomes of Palliative Care**

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| Care should be coordinated across settings through regular, high-quality communication during transitions or when needs change and through effective case management. |
| Control of pain and symptoms, psychosocial distress, spiritual issues, and practical needs should be addressed with the patient and family throughout the care continuum. |
| Patients and families should be prepared for the process of dying and for death, if anticipated, with exploration of hospice options, enhancement of personal growth opportunities, and availability of bereavement support. |
| Patients and families should receive ongoing information that enables their full understanding of the condition and options; their values and goals should be elicited; the pros and cons of treatment should be reassessed on a regular basis; and decisions of care should be sensitive to changes in patients' conditions. |

*Information from National Consensus Project for Quality Palliative Care. Clinical practice guidelines for quality palliative care. Accessed online February 21, 2006, at:http://www.nationalconsensusproject.org/Guidelines_Download.asp.*

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